

NEW TARIFF BILL READY.

AN EXPLANATION OF ITS PROVISIONS MADE BY CHAIRMAN DINGLEY.

HE ESTIMATES THAT IN THE FIRST YEAR OF ITS OPERATION IT WILL YIELD FROM \$200,000,000 TO \$250,000,000 ADDITIONAL REVENUE—FRAMED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF PROTECTION TO AMERICAN INDUSTRIES AS WELL AS RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THE TREASURY.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) Washington, March 15.—Chairman Dingley's statement respecting the provisions and probable effects of the tariff bill is the best one that could be made at the present time. He is thoroughly conversant with all the details of the measure, and has access to calculations and computations which are not yet accessible in print. The statement is as follows:

"The bill has two purposes, namely, to raise additional revenue and to encourage the industries of the United States. On the basis of the importations of the last fiscal year, the bill would increase the revenue about \$112,000,000, divided among the several schedules roughly as follows:

A. Chemicals	\$20,000,000
B. Crockery and glassware	4,000,000
C. Metals	4,000,000
D. Woollens	1,500,000
E. Sugar	20,000,000
F. Tobacco	7,000,000
G. Agricultural	6,000,000
H. Cottons	1,800,000
I. Jute, linen and hemp	1,000,000
J. Woollens	15,000,000
K. Manufactures of wool	25,000,000
L. Silks	1,500,000
M. Textiles	1,500,000
N. Surpluses	6,000,000

HOW THE ESTIMATES ARE MADE UP.

"This estimate is on the supposition that the imports of each class of goods would be the same the next fiscal year as in the fiscal year ended last June. But as the imports of wool were three times as great and those of woollen goods more than twice as great in 1896 as in 1895, the committee assumes that their excessive importation would be largely reduced by the proposed bill, although the fact that our domestic production of wool has diminished 8,000,000 pounds since 1893 will necessitate the importation of much more wool now than in the latter year. Assuming that the importations of wool will fall off at least one-third from those of 1896, on account of anticipatory revenue from this source at \$11,000,000. Anticipating also that the imports of woollens will fall off nearly 50 per cent from the enormous imports of 1896, we estimate the increased revenue from this source under the proposed rates at about \$14,000,000. From sugar we estimate \$20,000,000 additional revenue. Anticipating a considerable falling off of imports of Havana tobacco, because of the revolution in Cuba, we reduce the estimates of additional revenue to be derived from the tobacco schedule to \$4,000,000. The remaining schedules would afford a revenue of about \$39,500,000 on the basis of imports of 1896, but as we would probably be diminished imports at some points, although the gradual restoration of business activity would offset this by increasing the consumption of imported luxuries, we reduce the estimates on these to \$31,000,000. These would aggregate an additional revenue of \$80,000,000 the first year. A further reduction of \$5,000,000 or \$10,000,000 for contingencies would leave \$75,000,000 to \$70,000,000 as the probable increased revenue from this bill the first year, which would undoubtedly rise to \$100,000,000 the second year.

DELAY WOULD RESULT IN LOSS.

"These estimates are below rather than above the probable result, unless a considerable delay in the enactment of the bill should greatly enlarge the opportunity for imports of articles on which duties are to be raised—particularly wool and woollens—for speculative purposes. Undoubtedly any delay beyond the first of May in placing the bill upon the statute book would result in a large loss of revenue. This increase of revenue is secured by transferring wool, lumber, crude oil, argols, paintstuffs and statuary, straw ornaments, straw paintings, hurlups and various other articles from the free list to the present law to the dutiable list; by increasing the duty on woollens to compensate for the manufacturer for the duty placed on wool; by raising the duty on sugar about three-fourths of a cent per pound in order to encourage the production of sugar in this country, which it is believed can be done, and thus give our farmers a new crop which we now import mainly from abroad; by increasing the duty on agricultural products affected by Canadian competition, and on fine cotton goods, some advanced manufactures of iron and steel, manufactures of jute, flax and hemp, in order to encourage these and other industries here, and especially by increasing duties on such luxuries as liquors, tobacco, silks and laces, etc.

AS A RULE, THE RATES OF DUTIES PROPOSED ARE LOWER THAN THE RATES OF THE TARIFF OF 1890 AND THE TARIFF OF 1894, SUCH REDUCTIONS OF RATES FROM THE FORMER LAW, PRESERVING THE PROTECTIVE PRINCIPLE, BEING MADE FEASIBLE BY CHANGED CONDITIONS.

PROTECTING FARMING INTERESTS.

"The iron and steel schedule is changed very little from that schedule in the tariff of 1894, the change being entirely in the more advanced articles. The same is true of the cotton schedule. In the agricultural, wool and glass and earthenware schedules alone are the duties of the Act of 1890 fully restored, as a rule, and in a few cases increased, with the view of amply protecting and encouraging our farming interests at every possible point. While the duty on clothing wool is larger in proportion to the foreign value than on manufactured articles, yet it is thought desirable for the public interest and for our agriculture that we should produce this prime necessity for ourselves. The duty on carpet wools, as well as upon many other articles, is imposed mainly for revenue. The irritation caused by the use of a few wools heretofore classed as carpet wools, being used for clothing purposes, has been remedied by transferring such wools to the clothing wool classes, but the duty on clothing wool has been restored to the rate of the Act of 1890.

IN FRAMING THIS NEW TARIFF THE AIM HAS BEEN TO MAKE THE DUTIES SPECIFIC, OR AT LEAST PARTLY SPECIFIC, SO FAR AS POSSIBLE, TO PROTECT THE REVENUE AND ALSO TO PROTECT OUR OWN INDUSTRIES. THIS HAS BEEN DONE IN RESPONSE TO THE WISHES OF THE BETTER CLASS OF IMPORTERS, AS WELL AS OF THE ADMINISTRATORS OF THE LAW AND OF OUR OWN PRODUCERS.

THE VERY GENERAL SUBSTITUTION OF SPECIFIC DUTIES, EVEN WHERE THEY ARE ONLY THE EQUIVALENT OF EXISTING AD VALOREM, WILL ITSELF INCREASE THE REVENUE AND STRENGTHEN THE PROTECTION AFFORDED TO OUR INDUSTRIES.

THE RECIPROCITY FEATURES.

"The reciprocity provisions of the Act of 1890 have not only been fully restored, but this policy has been extended by adding to sugar, tea, coffee and hides as articles on which to make reciprocal agreements, such articles as champagne, brandy, wines, artificial and natural mineral waters, silks, argols and silk laces. In adding these articles the reciprocity provision is strengthened greatly by providing for a reduction of duties on them to countries giving us similar concessions. The bill as a whole has the unanimous support of the Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee, and will, it is hoped, receive the support not only of Republicans but of others who believe that revenue should be at least equal to expenditures, with the conviction that in adjusting duties to secure such duties it is a wise policy to encourage home production and manufacture, and thus provide employment at good wages for the laborers of our people, upon whose purchasing power depends the market for our products."

TO REMEDY MANY ABUSES.

Of course, the bill contains, besides the provisions affecting existing rates of duty, many other important provisions which will have a substantial effect upon the revenue and also upon domestic industries, if enacted into law. For example, there have been many and loud complaints from domestic manufacturers, as well as from importers and customs officials, on account of the manner in which the provision of existing law relating to the introduction of wearing apparel free from duty has been stretched and abused. It is asserted that on the revenue side alone this has resulted in a loss of millions of dollars a year. If the provision on this subject in the pending bill becomes law this abuse will be remedied, and a large saving of revenue affected, and domestic manufacturers will be substantially benefited. The same results will flow from other provisions of the bill, mention of which was necessarily omitted in the succinct statement which Chairman Dingley has furnished to accompany the measure.

IT WILL BE NOTED THAT THE ATTEMPT TO APPLY SPECIFIC RATES OF DUTY TO CHINA, PORCELAIN AND EARTHENWARE, ETC., HAD TO BE ABANDONED. THIS WILL BE A DISAPPOINTMENT TO THE AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS, BUT THEY WILL BE RELIEVED IN FINDING THE RATES OF 1890 RESTORED IN THE MAIN. THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF REVENUE WHICH THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE EXPECTS THIS SCHEDULE TO YIELD FAIRLY ASSURES ADEQUATE PROTECTION TO THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRIES CONCERNED.

IN THE SUGAR SCHEDULE THE COMMITTEE HAS SUCCEEDED IN APPLYING SPECIFIC AND COMPOUND RATES TO A GREATER EXTENT THAN THEY HAVE EVER BEFORE BEEN APPLIED, AND CERTAIN CONFLICTING INTERESTS WHICH HAD TO BE HAD INTO CONSIDERATION. THE AGRICULTURAL CLASS AND HEMP, LUMBER AND SUCH LIKE, AS WELL AS PORTIONS OF ALL SCHEDULES OF DUTIES—ESPECIALLY THE PROVISION RELATING TO COAL—FALL BEAR OUT THE EXPECTATION THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE ABLE TO SECURE A MORE UNIFORM AND UNEQUAL AND INJURIOUS FOREIGN COMPETITION.

MORE WORK AND BETTER WAGES.

Taking the bill as a whole, Chairman Dingley and his colleagues of the committee feel convinced that if enacted into law without material alteration it will give employment to much of the labor now unemployed and increase the wages of all who find employment in the various industries. Every Republican member of the committee with whom the Tribune correspondent conversed to-day on the subject expressed this opinion, and every one of them expressed his hope of approval of the bill. That there is to be no unnecessary delay in bringing the bill into the House after fair consideration in the committee is shown by the fact that Chairman Dingley has called a meeting of the committee for 10 o'clock to-morrow morning to begin that work. It is hoped that the comparative statement showing increases and reductions of rates, etc., will be ready at that time.

(For the text of the tariff bill see Part II, Page 1.)

THE LAURADA HEARD FROM.

SEEN BY A FRUIT STEAMER HEADING FOR CUBA.

IT IS BELIEVED THAT SHE HAS LANDED ANOTHER EXPEDITION FOR THE INSURGENTS. Baltimore, March 15.—There seems to be little doubt that the missing steamer Laurada of Baltimore fame has succeeded in landing another expedition on the Cuban coast. Captain Butman, of the fruit steamer Bowden, which arrived here to-day from Jamaica, reports that last Wednesday he sighted the Laurada five miles off Watling's Island. She was steaming along slowly when the Bowden was in sight, steering directly in the course which vessels take for Cuba.

When the lookout discovered the Bowden, Captain Butman says, there was considerable excitement on board the Laurada, and she changed her course slightly, but as it was apparent that the Bowden did not intend to interfere with her the little craft returned to her original course, and when last seen was proceeding southeasterly. A cloud of steam pouring out of her exhaust pipe showed that even if her boilers are weak, as has been reported, they are carrying every pound of steam the Laurada is capable of.

The name of the vessel had been pointed out and no lettering was discernible from the Bowden on either bow or stern, but Captain Butman declares that he knows the Laurada too well to be mistaken in her lines. It was plain, he says, that she was not carrying a full cargo. The amount of arms and ammunition which the Laurada is said to have taken on board recently off Captain Butman's opinion, to be deep in the water than she was when the Bowden passed her.

The Laurada sailed from here on the evening of February 25, ostensibly for Philadelphia, for repairs. Before leaving Baltimore she took on board coal and stores enough to last her on a run across the Atlantic. Besides her big supply of coal, she had wagon-loads of meats, potatoes and other provisions. Captain J. D. Hart, who owns the Laurada, was in Baltimore when the Laurada sailed. The following Sunday the Laurada was seen off Barnegat, loading arms and men. When her mission was made public, Captain Hart denied most emphatically that she had gone to Cuba.

END OF THE AUTONOMISTS.

THE PARTY HAS GONE OVER TO THE REFORMISTS—MORE INSURGENTS EXECUTED.

Havana, March 15.—The "Lucha," echoing the rumors that have been in circulation for some time, announces the dissolution of the Autonomist party and says that the Marquis de Montoro and Señores Cueto, Zayas and Salazar, the leaders of the Autonomist party, have been expelled from the party. The Reformists will be the organ of the Autonomist party, and will go out of existence with the party. The Marquis de Montoro, who has had the editorial management of "El Pais," will assume the editorship of the "Diario de la Marina." The other elements of the party will abstain from political action.

EDWARD NELSON, A YOUNG AMERICAN CITIZEN, WAS ARRESTED YESTERDAY AT MATANZAS FOR THE SALE OF THE MILITARY LINES WITHOUT THE DOCUMENTS THAT WOULD ENTITLE HIM TO DO SO. NO OTHER CHARGE WAS MADE AGAINST HIM.

THE CHARLES-ST. STATION OFFERED HER POLICE PROTECTION IN KEEPING A DISORDERLY HOUSE IF SHE WOULD PAY HIM \$100 A MONTH.

In the course of the examination of Mrs. Elizabeth Merrill in the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday afternoon on a charge of conducting a disorderly house at No. 49 Greenwich-ave., the charge of the Acting Captain Petty, of the Charles-st. station, was made by Mrs. Merrill and her attorneys, Epstein Bros., of No. 28 Broadway. Mrs. Merrill, who has several times been arrested and once convicted for keeping a disorderly house, charged that Sergeant Petty personally offered her police protection upon the payment of \$100 a month. Mrs. Merrill's husband corroborated his wife, and swore that he had been offered police protection upon the payment of the sum mentioned.

SATURDAY NIGHT LAST ACTING CAPTAIN PETTY, WITH DETECTIVES RENN AND GREGAN AT HIS COMMAND, MADE A RAID ON MRS. MERRILL'S PLACE, AND LOCKED HER UP IN THE CHARLES-ST. STATION, WITH A CHARGE OF CONDUCTING A DISORDERLY HOUSE AGAINST HER.

Her two little daughters, Evelyn, fourteen years old, and Bertha, twelve, were also taken into custody and turned over to the care of the Society for the Prevention of Pauperism. Mrs. Merrill was arraigned before Magistrate Cornell in the Jefferson Market Court, but on her request the examination was adjourned until yesterday afternoon, that her counsel might be present.

THE TESTIMONY OF THE TWO DETECTIVES AND A NEIGHBOR OF MRS. MERRILL WAS TAKEN FOR THE PROSECUTION, AND THEN SHE TOOK THE STAND IN HER OWN BEHALF AND DENIED THE CHARGE.

She charged that the time she was arrested was on her house, and she was fined \$30 in Special Sessions.

"A FEW DAYS AFTER I HAD BEEN FINED," THE WOMAN SAID ON THE STAND YESTERDAY, "CAPTAIN PETTY CAME TO MY HOUSE ONE EVENING, AND WHEN I INVITED HIM TO COME IN MY PARLOR HE WALKED UP, AND, EMBRACING ME, SAID: 'NOW, LOOK HERE, YOU DON'T WANT TO BE ANGRY AT ME FOR RAIDING YOU, I HAD TO DO IT. I WAS AFTER THAT LANDLORD, AND HAD TO RAID YOU FIRST TO GET AT HIM.'"

"Now, I don't want anything from you now," the Captain told me, "and you can go ahead and open up your house, and you will get all the protection you want. You will have to pay me \$100 each month, however. I will send a man named Hass to you in a few days, with whom you can negotiate." Then the Captain went away. A few days later this man Hass, who keeps a saloon at 720 Broadway and University Place, came to me and told me that he came for the money. I told him I didn't care to talk with him just then. A day or so passed, and he came back with a check that had been made out in the name of 'Newman,' which he wanted me to sign. I refused to do so, and he kept the check, later gave it to my lawyers.

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